We claim:

1. A method for detecting a plurality of signals comprising the steps of:

measuring a strength of signals being transmitted on a frequency associated with a signal to be detected;

determining an integration time period based on the measured strength of signals; and

searching for the signal to be detected using a correlator for the determined integration time period.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the integration time period is determined in a manner inverse to the measured strength of signals.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the integration time period is determined using a curve.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the integration time period is determined using a mathematical equation.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the integration time period is maximized if the measured strength of signals is below a threshold value.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the integration time period is minimized if the measured strength of signals is above or equal to a threshold value.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the frequency is an estimated frequency for the signal to be detected.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the estimated frequency is based on a reference point within a sector in which a receiver is located.

9. The method of claim 1 comprising the additional step of:

receiving a search message indicating the frequency associated with the signal to be detected.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the frequency is a frequency at which the signal to be detected was transmitted.

11. The method of claim 1 comprising the additional steps of:

measuring a strength of signals being transmitted on a frequency associated with a second signal to be detected;

determining a second integration time period based on the measured strength of signals; and

searching for the second signal to be detected using a correlator for the determined second integration time period.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining the integration time periods include the step of:

determining a power spectrum density ratio.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein a long integration time period is determined if the power spectrum density ratio is small.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein a short integration time period is determined if the power spectrum density ratio is large.